TO THE PUB[illegible]IC.

The preſervation of peace and order is one of the chief [illegible]s of civil government, and a well-regulated community is an honour to the magiſtra[illegible]nd the people.——The MAGISTRATE is inveſted with power for the correction o[illegible]nd the encouragement of virtue, and it is the duty and intereſt of the people to ſu[illegible] the civil authority, and to be obedient to the laws.—The community at large is an e[illegible]ed family, of which the MAGISTRATE is the legal guardian, and the happineſs of the[illegible]e depends upon the harmony and regularity of the conſtituent parts.——When the[illegible]ISTRATE preſides with paternal ſolicitude, and a vigilant attention to the general i[illegible]; and the people are influenced by a voluntary and reſpectful obedience, the felici[illegible]omplete: but, oppreſſion or negligence in the magiſtracy, and inſubordination and i[illegible]ouſneſs in the people, diſturb the public tranquillity, and the conſequences are hi[illegible]injurious.—It is painful to obſerve the *progreſs* of profaneneſs and immorality, ſo fa[illegible]o the exiſtence of ſocial order.———The PROFANATION of the LORD'S DAY is ſo[illegible]mon in many of the principal towns in this kingdom, and has acquired ſuch ſtrength by the inveteracy of cuſtom and the acceſſion of numbers, that the moſt ſalutary laws ſeem almoſt inadequate to the correction of the *evil*, and ſome powerful combination is neceſſary to ſubdue it effectually, or, at leaſt, to check its progreſs.—To men of enlightened minds it is evident, that the decay of religion and the profanation of the LORD'S DAY will, eventually, produce a total diſſolution of morals and the extinction of order. The beſt and deareſt intereſts of ſociety, the happineſs of individuals, the peace and proſperity of the country, and the favor of GOD, are ſo intimately connected with the maintenance of true religion and virtue, that the MAGISTRATES have every reaſon to expect the cordial aſſiſtance of the inhabitants in an attempt to ſuppreſs profaneneſs and immorality, and to promote a more regular obſervance of the LORD'S DAY, in the town of Scarborough.

The MAGISTRATES wiſh, in the *firſt inſtance*, to try every lenient expedient for the preſervation of order, as it will be more congenial to their own feelings, and honourable to the town, to effect a reformation by a general and voluntary co-operation, than to be reduced to the painful neceſſity of a rigorous execution of the law.

In order to accompliſh ſo deſirable a purpoſe, it is recommended that the different tradeſmen of the town enter into a written agreement, under the ſanction of the MAGISTRATES, engaging not to exerciſe their reſpective occupations, neither to ſell, nor expoſe to ſale, any wares, goods, merchandize, or article of their trades, on the LORD'S DAY, of which they ſhall give previous notice by the public cryer ——— Should this cuſtom happily be eſtabliſhed, and inflexibly ſupported, the tradeſmen and their ſervants will be emancipated from a ſervile ſtate of drudgery on the LORD'S DAY; and while they are diſcharging their ſacred obligations to the laws of GOD and their country, neither their own worldly buſineſs nor the town will ſuffer any detriment.

The law againſt Inn-keepers who permit tipling or any diſorder in their houſes, on the LORD'S DAY, will be ſtrictly enforced ——— The encouragement of ſuch a practice is a breach both of the laws of GOD and man, and the fatal ſource of the moſt grievous evils to the community — It is the unhappy cauſe of the ruin of many poor families; as, while the labourer is tempted to ſpend his wages, on ſundays, at the alehouſe, in pernicious draughts of intoxicating liquors, his wife and children are, perhaps, ſtarving at home.

The MAGISTRATES confiding in the good diſpoſition and liberal ſentiments of the reſpectable inhabitants of this town, and anxious to diſcharge their duty to GOD and the community, will cauſe agreements to be prepared for the purpoſe, and depute a proper perſon to obtain the voluntary ſignatures of thoſe who may be diſpoſed to promote ſo deſirable a reformation—And, as the ſtreets, on Sunday evenings, are ſubject to diſorder, by the crouds which aſſemble therein, it is recommended to all *Maſters* of *families* to impreſs the ſolemn and important duties of the LORD'S DAY, ſtrongly upon the minds of their children and domeſtics, to engage them to behave with ſuitable decency and reverence———And the MAGISTRATES hereby give notice, that the Conſtables will have it in command to preſerve a proper decorum in the ſtreets and other places, and to apprehend thoſe who may behave diſorderly, on the LORD'S DAY.

Scarborough, March, 1800.

Thomas Hinderwell
William Herbert } Bailiffs.

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